

BY-LAWS

AND

3

RULES OF GOVERNMENT

OF THE

HARRISBURG CEMETERY ASSOCIATION,

TOGETHER WITH

THE ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Dedicated, September 30, 1845.

HARRISBURG, PA.:

I. G. M'KINLEY AND J. M. G. LESCURE, PRINTERS.

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1847.

HARRISBURG, PA.:
PRINTED ON M'KINLEY AND LESCURE'S
STEAM POWER PRESSES.

HARRISBURG CEMETERY.

IN the autumn of 1843 the following paper was drafted by Henry Buehler, Esq., and presented to the gentlemen who have subscribed the same in the order of their signatures. After a number of meetings on the subject contemplated, James M'Cormick, Esq., consented to be considered as one of the original subscribers, and is named in the law incorporating the association, although his signature is not affixed to the subjoined :

We, the undersigned, hereby agree (provided ten responsible persons join in the proposition) to purchase and enclose from ten to fifteen acres of land, in the vicinity of the borough of Harrisburg, for the purpose of establishing a public cemetery ; the location, price, &c., to be approved of by a majority of the ten. After the incorporation for the purpose, we will agree to convey to the constituted authorities thereof, the said land, with the provision that it be laid off into suitable burial lots, both for congregations and for individual families ; and that a title be made to each of the ten persons hereby associated, for one family burial lot for each, free of any expense,* the choice thereof to be made prior to any sales, and to be made in the order of the signatures hereto ; and also, that the remainder of the lots be sold, from time to time, to such persons as may desire to purchase. The original cost, with interest, to be paid to the ten purchasers out of the proceeds of the first sales, and that the proceeds of all sales thereafter, in all time to come, be applied exclusively to the improvement of the cemetery grounds, or roads leading thereto. Witness our hands and seals at Harrisburg, the 16th day of October, 1843.

HENRY WALTERS,
JOHN ROBERTS,
HENRY BUEHLER,
HERMAN ALRICKS,
LUTHER REILY,

HAMILTON ALRICKS,
JAMES PEACOCK,
VALENTINE HUMMEL,
JOHN C. BUCHER,
WILLIAM DOCK.

Various situations were viewed, with the object of making a suitable selection of ground for a cemetery, but none appeared to embrace the advantages requisite, so well as the spot now occupied, and the above named gentlemen, with Mr. M'Cormick, who had been added to their number, on the 27th day of November, 1844, entered into a contract with Mr. Henry Herr, for the purchase of it, containing eleven acres and one hundred and fifty perches, strict measure, for the sum of \$1,571, payable in three annual payments, without interest, as follows : \$534 on the first day of March, 1846, \$507 on the first day of March, 1847, and \$530 on the first day of March, 1848.

*This provision was subsequently abandoned by the members of the corporation, who are the persons above named, and each member consented to pay for the lot selected for himself, in the same manner, and on the same terms, that strangers were required to pay, reserving only to themselves the right of selection before sale, in the order in which their names appear above.

On the 30th day of December, 1844, Messrs. M'Cormick, Hamilton Alricks and Roberts were appointed a committee to prepare a charter for the association. At a subsequent meeting the committee reported a charter, which, with one amendment, was adopted, and submitted to the Legislature for enactment, and which passed into a law on the 14th day of February, 1845, as follows :

AN ACT to incorporate the Harrisburg Cemetery Association.

WHEREAS, The persons hereinafter named have entered into an agreement to purchase a piece of land in the vicinity of Harrisburg, containing about twelve acres, for the purpose of converting the same into a cemetery ; and as they are desirous that they and their successors may be incorporated for the purpose of establishing and perpetuating such cemetery ; therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That Henry Walters, John Roberts, Henry Buehler, Herman Alricks, Luther Reily, Hamilton Alricks, James Peacock, Valentine Hummel, John C. Bucher, William Dock and James M'Cormick, and their successors, be and they are hereby created a body politic and corporate in law, by the name, style and title of the "Harrisburg Cemetery Association," and by that name shall have perpetual succession, and be able to sue and be sued in any court of law or equity ; and may have and use a common seal, and the same, at their pleasure, to alter or renew ; and shall have power to purchase, have, hold and enjoy to them and their successors, the aforesaid piece of land, with such other real estate as they may require for the purpose of establishing said cemetery : *Provided,* That the whole quantity of real estate to be held by them as a corporation, shall not exceed twenty acres ; and the said corporation shall have authority to receive gifts or bequests, for the purpose of ornamenting or improving said cemetery, and to hold such personal property as may be necessary to carry out the object of this act.

SECTION 2. That the affairs of said corporation shall be conducted by a president and five managers, who shall be elected by a majority of the votes of the members of the corporation, on the first Monday of June in each and every year ; and in case no election shall be held at the time aforesaid, the officers of the preceding year shall continue in office until an election shall be held. The said president and managers shall fill all vacancies which may occur in their own body, and shall have power to lay out and ornament the grounds purchased for said cemetery, to erect such buildings thereon as may be necessary for the enjoyment of the same, to lay out, sell and dispose of burial lots, to appoint all necessary officers, and fix their several duties and compensation, and to make such by-laws, rules and regulations as they may deem proper for conducting the affairs of the corporation, for the government of lot-holders and visitors to the cemetery, and for the transfer of lots and the evidence thereof.

SECTION 3. That no streets or roads shall hereafter be opened through the lands of said corporation, except by and with the consent of the said president and managers, and that any person who shall wilfully destroy, mutilate, deface, injure, or remove any tomb, monument, grave-stone, or other structure placed in the cemetery aforesaid, or any fence, railing, or other work, for the protection or ornament of said cemetery, or of any tomb, monument, grave-stone, or other structure placed therein as aforesaid, or shall wilfully destroy, cut, break, or remove any tree, shrub, or plant, within the limits of said cemetery, or shall shoot or discharge any gun or other fire arms within said limits, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor ; and shall upon conviction thereof, before any justice of the peace of the county of Dauphin, be punished by a fine at

the discretion of the justice, according to the aggravation of the offence, of not less than five nor more than fifty dollars; or shall, on conviction thereof, in the court of quarter sessions of said county, be punished by fine as aforesaid, and by imprisonment, according to the aggravation of the offence, at the discretion of the court.

SECTION 4. That every lot conveyed in said cemetery, shall be held by the proprietor for the purpose of sepulture alone, transferable with the consent of the president and managers, and shall not be subject to attachment or execution, and that the said cemetery shall hereafter be forever exempted from taxation.

SECTION 5.- That as soon as the money received from the sale of lots in said cemetery, shall be sufficient to pay the purchase money expended by the persons hereby incorporated with interest, and the expenses that shall have been incurred by them in laying out, enclosing and improving the grounds, then each lot-holder shall become a member of the corporation, and have a right to vote for the officers thereof; and at all elections held thereafter under this act, each member of the corporation shall be entitled to one vote, and no more: *Provided*, That all the money raised thereafter from the sale of lots shall be expended in improving, repairing and maintaining said cemetery: *And provided also*, That until an election shall be held under the provisions of this act, the persons hereby incorporated shall be managers of the corporation.

FINDLEY PATTERSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

WILLIAM P. WILCOX,
Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED—The fourteenth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five.

FRS. R. SHUNK.

March 25, 1845, the association organized under their charter, and elected Henry Walters, President, and John Roberts, Secretary and Treasurer.

March 27, 1845, Messrs. Walters, Buehler and Roberts were appointed to draft by-laws for the government of the association, and the Secretary was authorized to lay out the grounds, preparatory to a sale of the lots.

September 27, 1845, the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following by-laws, which were adopted:

By-laws and rules for the government of the association, lot-holders, and visitors of the cemetery.

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.

The regular meetings of the Board of Managers shall be held on the first Thursday in the months of January, April, July and October, in each year hereafter, and special meetings may be held whenever desired by the President, or requested by a member of the Board, in writing.

OFFICERS TO BE APPOINTED.

There shall be appointed by the Board of Managers immediately after their election, annually, a Secretary and Treasurer, Superintendent and a keeper of the cemetery, who shall respectively continue in office until a successor be appointed.

THE DUTY OF THE SECRETARY.

The Secretary shall keep the records and proceedings of the corporation. He shall affix the seal of the corporation and attest the same to all deeds for

the conveyance of burial lots within the cemetery, and to all certificates of the acts of the corporation, when the same may be necessary.

THE DUTY OF THE TREASURER.

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep the accounts of the corporation, which he shall present for inspection at each regular meeting of the Board; to receive all money and exhibit a full account of the receipts and expenditures of the corporation at the end of every year. He shall give bond for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office, and the accounting for all moneys of the corporation that may come into his hands, in the penal sum of \$1,000. The funds of the corporation he shall deposit in bank, and they shall only be drawn out on the check of the Treasurer and a member of the committee of accounts.

COMMITTEE OF ACCOUNTS.

The President and Secretary shall be *ex-officio* a committee of accounts, and any account approved of by them shall be paid by the Treasurer. In case of disagreement between the members of said committee, as to the justice or propriety of paying any account, the matter shall be referred to the decision of the Board at their next meeting.

DUTIES OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.

1. He shall have the general direction and control of the improvement of the grounds under the Board of Managers.

2. He shall lay out all lots in the cemetery, and shall preserve a record thereof, so that they may be known and found, should their boundaries become obliterated.

3. He shall see that the regulations of the Board of Managers, with respect to the improvements on lots by the holders thereof, be properly observed.

4. He shall have charge and keep an account of the property, tools, and implements of the corporation which may be required on the premises.

5. He shall furnish estimates when required, of the probable expenditures of the coming week, month or quarter, at each regular meeting of the Board, and when workmen are engaged on the grounds, shall certify to the President the number of hands employed, the amount due to them, and the work in which they have been engaged.

6. He shall keep a record of all the interments within the cemetery, in the form determined on by the Board.

7. Lot-holders who may wish either to improve or enclose their lots, erect monuments, construct vaults, or to have their boundaries more fully defined, must apply to the Superintendent, whose directions they will conform to, as well upon these occasions as upon the order to be observed by funeral processions, &c., within the limits of the cemetery. And to him the Managers look for the enforcement of these rules by lot-holders and visitors generally, and for the maintenance of decorum in the cemetery on all occasions.

DUTIES OF THE KEEPER.

1. The Keeper shall reside upon the premises as soon as a house can be constructed for his accommodation, and shall not absent himself from the grounds without the permission of the Superintendent.

2. He shall lock and unlock the gates of the cemetery daily, under the rules and regulations of the Managers.

3. He shall keep the avenues and walks in order and free from grass and other obstructions; trim the trees and shrubbery in the woodland, and keep

the grounds clean, and attend to whatever may be thought necessary to maintain the same in proper condition, under the directions of the Superintendent.

4. He shall attend to the visitors when called on for any explanations in relation to the ground, in the absence of the Superintendent, and if any one shall trespass or commit a breach of the rules, he shall report such conduct to the Superintendent immediately thereafter.

5. He shall dig the graves for all interments within the cemetery, other than those dug for the remains of the dead removed from other burial grounds, which may be done by any other person in the confidence of the friends of the deceased, under the directions of the Superintendent.

6. He shall not permit any intoxicating drink to be used on the premises.

7. He shall find his own fuel, except such as he may be permitted to use by the Managers, of dead or decayed trees, or wood on the premises. All fuel and domestic utensils must be kept within doors, or within the limits of the yard attached to his dwelling; and no poultry, chicken-houses, or pig-pens, will be permitted outside of said yard, and no cattle of any description will be permitted to run at large on the premises.

PURCHASE OF LOTS.

Those who may purchase lots will have the ground secured to them, their heirs and assigns forever, for the purpose of sepulture alone, and for the burial of such white persons as they may choose to admit, provided such admission be free of charge; but owners of lots cannot transfer their lots to any others without the consent of the President and Managers of the association first had in writing.

ENCLOSURE AND IMPROVEMENT OF LOTS.

1. Walls erected on the lots must be within the limits of the lots, and when they are to be surmounted by a railing, they cannot exceed two feet in height, and no tomb, vault, railing, or other structure, shall be raised more than three feet six inches above the adjacent ground, without the permission of the Managers. Monuments may be erected so as not to obstruct any principal view, or interfere with the general effect of the grounds, but no extensive improvement of the kind can be constructed without the consent of the Managers.

2. No tree to be planted on, or removed from any of the lots without the consent of the Managers; and in case of the removal of a tree by the owner of the lot or otherwise, the timber shall belong to the association, who shall have it conveyed away and used in such manner as the Managers may think proper to direct.

3. Shrubby may be planted and flowers cultivated within the lots, according to the taste of the proprietors, so as not to obstruct the view, or injure the symmetry of the grounds.

4. All graves shall be dug at least six inches within the lines of the lots, and of sufficient depth to prevent any injury to the health of the living; they shall be kept sodded and of uniform shape on the surface, and not more than eighteen inches high. The earth in enclosed lots cannot be elevated above the level of the surrounding grounds without consent of the Managers.

5. All railings erected shall be six inches from the lines of the avenues upon which they may be erected.

6. The walls of vaults shall be at least nine inches thick, and the vaults shall be covered at least two feet with earth, stone or other impervious substance.

7. In the building of vaults, tombs or other structures, a place will be designated by the Superintendent for the deposit of stone, brick or other materials necessary therefor; which shall not be suffered to remain longer on the ground

than is actually necessary, and shall be brought to, and the surplus removed from the ground with as little injury to the avenues as possible.

INTERMENT.

1. No interment can take place without a permit from the President, Treasurer or Superintendent, which must be handed to the Superintendent a sufficient length of time before the funeral, to enable him to have the Keeper to prepare the grave.

2. Charges for interment shall be as follows :

For digging and sodding a grave, six feet deep, of a person over twelve	
years of age, - - - - -	\$2 00
Do. of a person under twelve years of age, - - - - -	1 50
Every foot over six feet deep, - - - - -	50

ADMITTANCE OF VISITORS.

1. Hours of admission will be from sunrise to sunset.

2. No visitors, other than lot-holders on foot, except in case of funerals, will be admitted on Sundays without an introduction by, or a written permit from a lot-holder, which permit shall in no case be transferable.

3. Except in case of funerals, the carriages of lot-holders only will have access to the grounds on each day of the week, except Sunday, at the hours above specified. Saddle horses cannot be admitted.

4. No horse to be left unfastened without an attendant.

5. No vehicle to be driven faster than a walk along any of the avenues.

6. Coachmen are to keep on the main avenues, and after setting down are to conform to such directions as may be given by the Superintendent or Keeper.

7. No children admitted unless attended by their parents or guardians, or be accompanied by some grown person having charge of them, who will be held responsible for their good conduct.

8. No dogs or fire-arms will be permitted on the grounds under any circumstances.

9. All persons are prohibited from cutting, pulling or defacing any tree, shrub, flower or fixture within the cemetery, or from writing upon any monument, enclosure or other structure on or belonging to the same.

10. Persons wilfully mutilating, defacing, injuring or removing any tombstone, grave-stone, or other structure placed in the cemetery, or any fence, railing or other work for the protection or ornament of the cemetery, or of any structure placed therein, or shall discharge any gun or fire-arm within the same, is liable, by the charter of the association, to a fine of not less than five or more than fifty dollars, and an imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

11. Visitors are requested to keep on the walks, so far as the grounds have been laid out.

12. No person will be permitted to climb over the fence of the cemetery, either in coming in or going out.

13. No money to be given to the Keeper for admission.

14. The Board of Managers reserve to themselves the right, at all times, of adding to, altering or supplying the foregoing rules.

And resolved, that the prices of lots within the cemetery, so far as laid out, be as follows :

For all lots 12 feet by 9, adjoining the carriage ways around the regular squares, - - - - -	\$20 00
All other lots of same size, within those squares, - - - - -	15 00
All lots in the woodlands, of largest size, 15 feet by 9, - - - - -	25 00
Other woodland lots in same proportion.	

And it was also resolved, that the 30th instant, September, 1845, be appointed for the dedication of the ground as a cemetery, and that the several clergy of the borough be invited to participate in the ceremony.

September 30, 1845, a large concourse of people attended on the ground, to witness the ceremony of dedication, when a very impressive and appropriate prayer was made by the Rev. John F. Mesick, and the following eloquent address delivered by the Rev. William R. De Witt, D. D.:

ADDRESS.

It is to me, my hearers, a source of deep regret, that the Rev. Brother, to whom the service of addressing you, on this interesting occasion was assigned, is not present to perform it.

And it is a source of still deeper regret, that I have been called to perform it, with so little time for preparation.*

It seems to me peculiarly befitting and proper, that these grounds, so beautifully located, and so beautifully prepared, should be set apart as a repository for our dead, with appropriate solemnities;—and that the occasion should be improved, in calling up those solemn and tender associations, which are so intimately connected with the burying ground of the earthly remains of the departed.

Henceforth this is to be no ordinary place. To-day we set apart these grounds from the *common* purposes of life, and devote them as the abode of the dead. Let them, from this time, be sacred to SORROW, to AFFECTION and to MEMORY.

Within the shade of this grove will be often assembled mournful and weeping groups, bearing with them the precious remains of departed friends, seeking for them some sacred and hallowed depository, 'till that morning that shall claim their redemption from the tomb.

Here will the sigh of the disconsolate, and the moan of the anguished heart be often heard. And here, when time has softened grief, will the mourner often wander in the stillness of the evening, to commune with the remembrance of departed affection, and mingle his plaintive sighs with the low whispers of the summer's breeze. These sods, so fresh and green, upon which the dews of heaven have so gently fallen, and sparkled in the glow of the morning's sun, will be watered with the tears of the bereaved, as they weep over the graves of those they loved. Here will affection and friendship rear their monuments, to perpetuate the memory of the departed, and form the connecting link between the visible and the invisible—the material and the spiritual—the temporal and the eternal.

Here, brethren, will soon be found *our* last abode on earth. We are, this day, preparing the place for our own graves; where these bodies shall repose in hope, when the cares, the toils and the sorrows of earth have ended—and when our spirits have winged their flight to other worlds.

The stage of human existence will, indeed, continue to be thronged with actors. But generation after generation will disappear from the busy pursuits of life, and here find their narrow and lonely dwelling—dust shall mingle with its kindred dust. The habitations of the dead shall become more populous than the living—and the grave will continue insatiable, until the time of its

*A Rev. Brother had been appointed to deliver the address at the dedication of the cemetery; but being unexpectedly called away, and finding it impossible to return as he had hoped, in time to attend to this interesting service, the request was made of the author only the day before, to deliver an address, which left only a few hours to prepare one. The fact is noticed here, as an apology, for the evident marks of haste that will be discovered in the structure and composition of the address; and which would have been sufficient to have induced the author to suppress its publication, had he not been overruled by the solicitations of partial friends.

destruction shall come, when they that dwell in the dust of the earth shall sing—for their dew shall be as the dew of herbs.

My hearers, there is a propriety in selecting retired and appropriate grounds like these, and beautifying them for the abode of the dead; for the grave is the connecting link, at least, in our associations with the spirits of those that have departed this world.

Those spirits we believe exist—exist in conscious being;—and there is deep in-laid in the constitution of our natures, the impression that some mysterious tie still binds them to their dust, while it reposes in hope; that they are permitted to visit the place of its deposit, and that there, especially, the living may hold communion with those, whose affection and whose friendship were once the sweetest earthly solace of their existence.

Such sentiments have almost universally prevailed: and hence the regard and the veneration which has ever been paid to the remains of the deceased. No cost has been spared to preserve them safe and inviolate; and no indignity has been regarded as too great to be heaped upon those who would desecrate their sacred abode. It is this, which has ever invested the grave with a peculiar solemnity and dread. And from hence have arisen those popular superstitions, which have peopled the grave yard with spectres and ghosts, visitants from the invisible world. We shall not enter into an examination of the question, whether, indeed, the spirits of the departed ever assume a visible form, and appear to the living; nor weigh the force of the moral evidence that may be adduced in favor of the affirmative, against the teachings of philosophy, which are all against the supposition.

But, brethren, though we may never have seen the spirits of the departed, who is there, that has stood in the stillness of the twilight, or when the moon beams have fallen softly around him, at the grave of departed affection, but has felt his mind awed, as though conscious that he was standing on the very confines of the spirit world, and that around him was hovering the invisible spirit of the one whose dust was reposing at his feet, while upon him is bent the intense gaze of a deep and holy affection?

While I am convinced that there is nothing in such an impression, that contravenes the word of God—whether illusory or not, I love to cherish it. I love to feel, what seems to me, its sacred, its hallowed influence.

If it be nothing more than the strong imaginings of my own mind, aided by the power of memory, still it is delightful, though mingled with sadness, and the impression which it leaves, cannot but be salutary.

It is sweet thus to commune with the departed—to call to our remembrance, the forms, the virtues, the affections and the friendships of those who have left us for the world of spirits—to feel that though hid from our vision, they are at times, at least, present with us; that they see us, and know us, and feel deeply interested in our moral progress towards perfect purity, and bend upon us still, that look of deep and sweet affection, which so often met our enraptured gaze, as with them we walked these low vales where sorrows grow.

Ah, brethren, such communings tend to break the charm with which the world holds us—reminds us of our relations to the invisible and the Eternal—and quicken our desires and our efforts to be prepared for that world where we shall meet again the spirits of our departed friends—and where

“——Our souls inseparable,
Alike enamoured of one glorious form
Shall walk together to eternity;
And there, beneath the smile of full-eyed love,
Ever renew our sweet original joy.”

Now, it is befitting, that a place like this, solitary—removed from the bustle and the observation of the busy world; where nature puts on her most attrac-

tive forms, and shady groves invite to solemn musings—I say it is befitting that such a place should be chosen for our communings with the departed.

To this sacred service let it henceforth be devoted. Here let the weeping mother, and the mourning father, the widowed wife, and the afflicted husband—the orphan child, and the bereaved friend, come, and wind their way in the lonely hours of evening, to the graves of their departed; call to remembrance, their forms, their virtues and their affections; yield their minds to the impression of their presence, though invisible; and feel the impulse of their deep and holy love for them, to strengthen every virtuous resolution, and to quicken them in the pathway of holiness, until they are meet to join the spirits of the departed in the world of light.

Again:—This ground becomes of peculiar interest to us, my hearers, because, in all human probability, it will be the place of our sepulchres.

We cannot be wholly indifferent to the place where our dust shall at last repose. Admitting, as we undoubtedly ought, that it is a subject of far, far subordinate importance, to that of the safety and the rest of the soul:—admitting, that it is of no importance, as far as their re-collection in the resurrection body is concerned, whither the particles have flown, or into what new and various combinations they may have entered, seeing that it is as easy to the power of God to re-collect and re-organize, and raise the body to life and immortality, under one class of circumstances, as under another:—yet, admitting all this, it is natural to desire, that our bodies should find some appropriate resting place, where our dust may sleep undisturbed, till the resurrection morn.

We wish for some retired solitary spot, far from the noise and tumult of the world; from its busy cares and pursuits, yet sufficiently accessible by those we leave behind, to secure their frequent visits, as our last retreat from the cares and the toils of life.

There is, also, my brethren, a home feeling, even in regard to the grave. There is something repugnant to our minds, in the thought of being buried in a land of strangers, and among strange graves. It is natural to desire to lay our bones in our own country—to be gathered in death to our own people, and to have our dust mingle with kindred dust.

We are told by the Apostle Paul, that by faith, Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel, and gave commandment concerning his bones.

Joseph died in Egypt; but he knew that that was not to be the residence of his people. He foresaw, that after a long period of bondage, they would be released, and led to the possession of Canaan, the land of promise. He was anxious that his dust might not remain in idolatrous Egypt, but find its last repose in the land of promise, and mingle with the dust of his kindred. Accordingly, when he died, he took an oath of the children of Israel, that they would be faithful to his request—embalm his body after the manner of the Egyptians—preserve it among them a sacred trust—transmit it to their children, with the command, that it should be kept from sepulture, until it could be committed to the tomb in his native land, amid scenes familiar to his youth, and with the graves of his brethren and his fathers.

His request was sacredly complied with. Nearly two hundred years after, the bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel brought up out of Egypt, buried they in Shechem, in a parcel of ground which Jacob bought of the sons of Hamer, the father of Shechem.

Here is an illustration of that home feeling which we have, even in regard to the final repose of our dust. It is right to cherish it. It has the sanction of Heaven.

Jacob when about to die in Egypt, charged his children saying:—"I am to be gathered unto my people—bury me with my fathers, in the cave that is in the field of Ephron, the Hittite—in the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is in the land of Mamre. There they buried Abraham and Sarah, his wife. There they buried Isaac and Rebecca, and there I buried Leah."

There is something gratifying to our feelings in visiting an old grave yard, and there see the father and the mother, with their children and their sires, lying side by side, and thus mingling the kindred dust of generations.

It seems as though that absorbing selfishness of the human heart, which, in seeking its gratification, tears asunder the strongest ties of affection, and lays waste the most tender and endearing sympathies, has, in such instances, been arrested, and that their union, harmony and affection in life, had been perpetuated even in death.

These grounds, which we devote this day as the abode of the dead, are peculiarly favorable, both from their situation, and their allotments, for cherishing these sacred and endearing associations. They are safe from that rude invasion, to which those places of interment, within the precincts of populous cities and towns are subject. Already, the rapid increase of population in these, have levelled many grave yards, and converted into places for dwellings, and marts of business and trade, the once silent abodes of the dead.

But here we need not fear such encroachments. This spot will be safe from such rude invasions. Here we may bury our dead, without the fear that their dust shall be disturbed.

According to the arrangements that have been made, each family will have its own allotment, and there, side by side, may sleep from generation to generation, the parents and their children. And when years and centuries, perhaps, have rolled away, the historian, who then records the names and the deeds of those who shall first be interred within these grounds, will be able to affirm—"And their graves remain with us even to this day."

Brethren, there is something more to be regarded than the gratification of the feelings of our nature, in this result. With what devotion do *we* now cherish the memorials of our fathers? And who would not feel that he was recreant to his most solemn duties, if he was not excited by the remembrance of their deeds, to emulate their virtues? Let us live worthy of our high privileges; let us faithfully do our duty to our God, to our country, and to the world; and our graves preserved inviolate, will speak to future generations, and urge them onwards in the upward career of piety, virtue and liberty.

Another reason for so ordering the repositories of the dead, that they shall remain inviolate through succeeding ages, is, that few ties that bind us to our country and to our homes, are stronger than those that grow out of the graves of our departed friends and relations. It was this that touched the heart of Nehemiah, and clothed his countenance in sadness, though exalted to the highest rank in the Persian Court, when he heard of the desolation of Jerusalem. It was the place of his father's sepulchres; and gladly did he resign the honors, and the emoluments of his elevated position, to hasten to his afflicted country, and there labor to rebuild the walls of the city and the temple; restore the rites of their ancient worship, and guard the *tombs* of his ancestors from the rude invasion of hostile foes.

Who does not feel the strength of this tie? The graves of our friends consecrate our country in our affections, and we linger with strong attachment around the place of our *father's sepulchres*.

Let us seek to secure that attachment in the bosoms of coming generations. While we prepare a place for our sepulchres, let it be far away from the possibility of rude invasion—that our children's children down 'till the latest pos-

terity, may walk among our tombs, and read our names engraven on the stones, and thus awaken in their hearts that strong affection for their country, which arises from its being the place of their father's sepulchre.

Finally, my hearers, the grave yard is invested with peculiar interest, as it is the place that shall witness the final triumph of Christianity on earth.

Careful as we may be in the selection, and much as we may adorn the place of burial, *death* and the *grave* are the *trophies* of sin—the sad memorials of an apostate race.

It is not true that death is a debt we all owe to nature. God never made any sentient being to die. Death is an intruder into his system, and is allowed to come only as the fruit and penalty of transgression. Man was made for immortality; and immortality, in his whole nature, had been the reward of his obedience, had he preserved his integrity through the period of his probation. But he sinned, and thus sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death hath passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. Hence the universal, the instinctive dread of death. It is nature's great abhorrence: the monster from whose touch every living thing recoils? Hence he is crowned the King of Terrors, and the grave, his dark domain, is shrouded in gloom, and fraught with horrors.

The great, the practical achievements of Christianity in behalf of those who yield their hearts to its sacred influence, are in redeeming them from the curse of the violated law—in restoring them to holiness—in taking away the sting of death, so that it shall come no longer clothed in terrors, but as the Angel of Peace, whom Jesus sends to take us to his arms; and, ultimately, in raising up the body from the sleep of death, and investing it with the beauty and vigor of immortal youth. For the purposes of judgment, as well as of mercy, all will be raised. They that have done good will come forth unto the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation. The resurrection of the body is reserved as the ultimate triumph of Christianity. It will be among the last acts of the mediatorial reign of Christ on earth.

The hour is coming in which all that are in their graves shall hear the voice of the Son of God, and shall come forth. In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump—for the trumpet shall sound—and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruption must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality, and then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written—Death is swallowed up in victory.

The hour is coming. It is true, indeed, that though it is now more than eighteen hundred years since this announcement was first made, the dead still sleep in their graves; but we must remember that God is not slack concerning his promises, as some men count slackness: for with the Lord a thousand years is as one day, and one day as a thousand years.

Yes, brethren, the hour is coming. The reign of death over our race may be perpetuated yet for a long time, for aught we know. We may descend into the silence of the sepulchre—generations after generations may here sleep beneath these sods, and the bleak winds of a hundred winters sweep over their solitary graves; but the hour will come; the voice of the Arch-angel and the trump of God will be heard. The dead will hear them. The sleepers will wake up from their long, long sleep, arise from their clay-cold beds, and come forth from the bosom of corruption, in the vigor of immortality.

It is, my brethren, in the faith and hope of this event we dig our graves, and deposit our dead, and build their tombs. We plant with the dark cypress, the flowers that bloom in the spring, around the lowly dwellings of the departed:

the one as the emblem of our sorrow, the other as the emblem of our faith and hope, that

“Spring will yet visit the mouldering urn;”

when,

“On the cold cheek of death, smiles and roses shall blend,
And beauty immortal awake from the tomb.”

Oh! it is, indeed, a sad office to close in death the eyes of those we love; to dress them in the drapery of the tomb, and then hear the cold earth rattling upon their coffins, as the grave shuts them from our vision.

But it is sweet to lean, at their grave-stones, on the anchor of our hope—the promise of God—and realize that their spirits have escaped to purer worlds, and brighter scenes, while their dust rests in hope, beneath the watchful eye, and the restoring hand of Him who is the resurrection and the life, until the morn that shall claim its redemption from the tomb.

And what, my brethren,

“What were life,
Even in the warm and summer light of joy,
Without those hopes, that, like refreshing gales
At evening from the sea, come on the soul,
Breathed from the ocean of eternity.”

There, in Heaven alone is rest and peace. *There* the rude storms of earth are unknown. *There* sorrows never heave the bosom, and death never intrudes. *There* life and joy forever reign, and fill the soul with rapturous bliss. *Thither* may our hopes aspire, and by an humble walk of faith on earth may we be prepared to share in the blessings of the first resurrection, and in the joy of God's eternal kingdom.

After the address, the assembly was dismissed by an excellent prayer from the Rev. George M'Cartney.

October 2, 1845, it was resolved, that the Seeretary cause to be printed the act of incorporation, together with the by-laws, in pamphlet form, for the use of the association.

On the 1st day of October, 1845, Gen. James Steel was buried in lot No. 35, section F, aged eighty-two years—his being the first interment in the cemetery; and on the 23d of same month, a still-born infant of William H. Kepner was buried in lot No. 44 of same section, being the second interment. Thus in those first two burials, the two extremes of life were embraced.

List of Lot-holders, with the numbers of their Lots, and sections in which situated.

A.

Alricks, Herman, Esq.,	-	-	-	Sect. K—Nos. 20 and 27.
Alricks, Hamilton, Esq.,	-	-	-	“ K— “ 21 and 28.
Aldred, Thomas,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 70.

B.

Buchler, Henry, Esq.,	-	-	-	Sect. K—Nos. 33, 34, 35, 41, 42,	[43.
Bueher, John C., Esq.,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 73, 74, 85, 86.	
Berryhill, John,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 83, 84.	
Boyer, George,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 94.	

Boyer, Geo. W.'s estate,	-	-	-	Sect. H—No. 13.
Bishop, Dr. Wm. S.,	-	-	-	“ H— “ 30.
Bigler, Samuel S.,	-	-	-	“ K— “ 30.
Briggs, Jno. H., Esq., and Isabella Todd,	-	-	-	“ M— “ 154, 155, 165, 166.
Buffington, John,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 100, 112.
Bell, William's estate,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 122, 134.
Beatty, George,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 103, 104, 105.

C.

Cameron, Gen. Simon,	-	-	-	Sect. H—Nos. 3, 7.
Cunningham, Thomas,	-	-	-	“ H— “ 14.
Cake, Joseph W., Esq.,	-	-	-	“ M— “ 74, 75, 89, 90.
Clendennin, Miss Mary,	-	-	-	“ M— “ 128.

D.

Dock, William, Esq.,	-	-	-	Sect. H—Nos. 12, 16.
De Witt, Rev. Wm. R.,	-	-	-	“ M— “ 76, 91.
Doll, Wm. H.,	-	-	-	“ K— “ 10.

E.

Elder, Thomas, Esq.,	-	-	-	Sect. K—No. 66.
Embich, Jacob S.,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 38.

F.

Fahnestock, Adam K.,	-	-	-	Sect. I—Nos. 15, 22.
Findlay, John K., Esq.,	-	-	-	“ H— “ 23.
Fager, Dr. John H., }	-	-	-	“ E— “ 101, 102, 113, 114.
Fager, George C., }	-	-	-	

G.

Geiger, John, }	-	-	-	Sect. E—Nos. 127, 128, 139, 140.
Geiger, George, }	-	-	-	
Greenawalt, William,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 106.

H.

Hummel, Valentine, Esq.,	-	-	-	Sect. H—Nos. 1, 2, 5, 6.
Harris, Robert, Esq.,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 107.
Haehnlen, Christian A.,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 117.
Hummel, David, Esq.,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 49, 50, 51.
Hummel, Valentine, Jr.,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 144.
Holbrook, Alva,	-	-	-	“ I— “ 1, 8.
Henry, Dr. Julien,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 82.
Hale, Benezer's estate,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 125.

J.

Jones, Andrew J.,	-	-	-	Sect. K—Nos. 17, 24.
Irvin, Mrs. Mary,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 108.

K.

Kunkle, George,	-	-	-	Sect. E—Nos. 61, 62, 63.
Kelker, Frederick,	-	-	-	“ E— “ 115, 116, 129, 130, 131, 141, 142, 143.

Kepner, Wm. H., - - - Sect. F—No. 44.
Kline, William, Esq., - - - " H— " 35.

L.

Lutz, Henry, - - - Sect. E—Nos. 119, 120.
Lingle, David, - - - " M— " 156.

M.

M'Cormick, James, Esq., - - - Sect. K—Nos. 31, 32, 39, 40.
M'Cala, Stephen, - - - " E— " 118.
Mish, George, - - - " H— " 4, 8.
Mitchell, David, Jr., - - - " H— " 25.
M'Kinney, Henry's estate, - - - " K— " 5.
Morton, Robert H., - - - " K— " 6.
Myers, Wm. J. and Margaret, - - - " E— " 23.
Maclean, Mrs. Hannah, - - - " K— " 13.

O.

Ogelsby, George's estate, - - - Sect. E—No. 132.
Orth, Dr. Edward L., - - - " K— " 18, 25.
Ossman, Charles, - - - " E— " 81.

P.

Peacock, James, Esq., - - - Sect. M—Nos. 141, 142.
Perkey, John, - - - " E— $\frac{1}{2}$ No. 98.
Pollock, E. M., - - - " H—Nos. 17, 21.
Pancake, Peter, - - - " I— " 30.
Peters, Gustavus S.'s estate, - - - " K— " 53.
Putt, William, - - - " E— " 69.

R.

Roberts, John, Esq.
Reily, Dr. Luther, - - - Sect. K—Nos. 19, 26.
Rhoads, John, - - - " E— " 95, 96.
Rawn, Charles C., Esq., - - - " M— " 129.
Robinson, Moses' estate, - - - " H— " 19.

S.

Stimmel, Philip, - - - Sect. E— $\frac{1}{2}$ No. 98.
Steele, Gen. James' estate, - - - " F—No. 35.
Shell, Jacob, - - - " H— " 20, 24.
Sprigman, Solomon, - - - " E— " 138.

T.

Thomson, Walter, - - - Sect. I—No. 29.
Todd, Isabella, and John H. Briggs, Esq., " M— " 154, 155, 165, 166.
Tomlinson, John B., - - - " E— " 111.

W.

Walters, Henry, Esq., - - - Sect. M—Nos. 77, 92.
Wier, James W., - - - " K— " 7, 14.
Wilson, Thomas H., - - - " F— " 13.